

Comments and Concerns:

Regarding "Significant Reductions"

A. "Exposure"

- Did Vector do any actual human exposure studies?
- Dr. Hecht, University of Minnesota Cancer Center, in the November 5th Wall Street Journal article, was quoted as saying, "These new products need to be studied more closely to determine what levels of toxins smokers ingest from them." And, "Neither Vector nor Brown & Williamson have yet completed such tests."

B. "Significance"

- If some compounds are reduced by only 15%, is that really significant?
- According to the Institute of Medicine report "Clearing the Smoke", levels of reductions should be "sufficiently large that independent scientific experts would anticipate finding a measurable reduction in morbidity and/or mortality in subsequent clinical or epidemiological studies."
- If nitrosonornicotine (NNN, a nitrosamine) is elevated, then is it correct to say that nitrosamines are reduced?
- An increase in NO might be a real concern for cardiovascular disease, according to Dr. Benowitz, University of California – San Francisco.

Regarding "The Major Causes of Lung Cancer in Smokers"

- It is not known what the major causes of lung cancer in smokers are.
- Smoke chemistry lists, such as that used by the State of Massachusetts, would not be 40 to 50 compounds long if it were known.